

# UTEE

THE JOURNAL OF THE

UTAH TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING



## Letter from the President

By Brent Blackburn

This past month I attended a workshop taught by Kip Christensen that I wish I had taken 20 years ago.

It was a wonderful experience because I got to see old friends and meet new ones. I didn't realize we had a teacher at Grouse Creek. Most people will not know where that is. It is not at the end of the world, but you can see it from there. My very best friends are technology teachers and I appreciate the opportunity I have to rub shoulders with you from time to time. You all have valuable talents and skills and could use them to make more money in the real world, but have sacrificed your time to prepare the next generation. I am reminded of the words of the General Motors Executive Charles Kettering;

*"My interest is in the future because I am going to spend the rest of my life there".*

I have never met a technology teacher that wouldn't drop everything to help me out and freely share hints and helps to make me a better teacher. This is so much the opposite of the competitive world where secrets are guarded and never shared. We have a great camaraderie in our efforts to teach the

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young students we work with daily. I can't believe how fast the time flies by and hope your year is successful in your own school. I look forward to meeting you at Mid-Winter Conference and the opportunity it is to share ideas and experiences with each other.

It is great to converse with you hear about your programs. I recently learned that Jared Barrett has left the high school to teach at the USU Blanding center and Matt Edwards has left SUU to teach at Parowan High School. We are fortunate to have job opportunities when the economy is suffering.

Thanks again for the all you do to promote technology education.

## UTEE Leadership



Jess Carter  
President-Elect



Brent Blackburn  
President



Kevin Aston  
Past President



Doug Livingston  
Executive Secretary

# Technology Student Association

By Mike Smoot

The Technology Student Association fosters personal growth, leadership, and opportunities in technology, innovation, design, and engineering. Members apply and integrate science, technology, engineering and mathematics concepts through co-curricular activities, competitive events and related programs.



As a recognized student organization, TSA offers students the opportunity to be involved in local, state and national competitions, to participate in leadership training, and to network with students and advisors from other schools.

**Competitive Events:** Chapters may choose to work on TSA competitions just within their school or they can take TSA beyond their school building and compete with others around the state and/or country in technology competitions.

**Leadership Opportunities:** Leadership training is offered through the state TSA organization, and is offered annually through national TSA.

Officers are elected at the local (chapter) level, the state level and the national level.

**Conferences:** State and national conferences are an excellent way to expand the TSA experience. They provide a venue for exciting competitions as well as an opportunity to meet students and advisors from other schools with similar interests.

The Utah TSA State Conference will be held on March 11-12, 2014 at the Jordan Applied Technology Center.

For more information about TSA please check out the Utah TSA website at [www.utahtsa.org](http://www.utahtsa.org).

## Logo Contest

By Doug Livingston

In the course of setting up this inaugural issue of the UTEE newsletter it became immediately apparent that we need a logo for our new organization. Our current banner is a bit plain. We'd love to be able to add a logo. Therefore, we are holding a contest to design the logo that will symbolize our association.

Logos are generally most useable when they are simple images that can be reduced to black and white. Colors and shading are welcome, but a simplified black and white version should also be available.

Feel free to use whatever software you are most comfortable with, but please submit your entry as a reasonably high resolution jpeg.

If you would like to air out your "mad skills" in graphic design, simply attach your entry to an

email and send it to [utee.association@gmail.com](mailto:utee.association@gmail.com)

Entries must be submitted on or before December 6<sup>th</sup>. The winning entry will be announced in our next newsletter.



## Legends from the Past

By Dean Christensen

It is a distinct pleasure to write a note to members and potential members of the finest professional association for technology educators in America.

You teachers of applied technical learning are the hope of young people and the future economic well-being of the State and Nation.

I retired from full-time education in the year 2000 and have since been very busy in personal pursuits, along with some involvement within education. I have evaluated programs, judged contest events and written/talked with policy makers about the importance of technical applied learning.

I have had a “retired” life filled with service. Ruth and I were in West Africa for 18 months. I have been involved in employment opportunity

training, Humanitarian service, and church service.

I have enjoyed being busy in hands-on WORK (the life blood of America’s success, past and future). I have built three homes (one for myself) and remodeled several others. I am healthy and enjoying life. The greater being of the universe has been good to me, far more than I deserve.

My soap-box has not changed and in-fact has strengthened my position that America will only succeed if we have a highly educated work force who knows how to use their hands as well as their heads. Manufacturing, design and invention/innovation are the bases for economic prosperity.

You and the young people you teach are the hope and solution for America. Onward and upward!

## UTEE Officer Nominations

By Doug Livingston

Each, during Winter Conference, the President-Elect takes the helm as President, The President becomes the Past President, and we say “Thank you” to the Past President for the three years of service they have contributed. We also take a few minutes to elect a new President-Elect.

This year, we would like to improve on that process. Nominations for this year’s new President-Elect are now open. Please nominate a fellow member of the organization and we will do our best to provide a short bio and list of qualification in the next issue of this newsletter. Doing so will allow members to thoughtfully consider those individuals who will best benefit the organization and continue to move us “onward and upward”.

Please send all nominations to:  
[utee.association@gmail.com](mailto:utee.association@gmail.com)

## 2014 Winter Conference

By Jess Carter

The 2014 Winter Conference will be held on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at Westlake High School

Conference plans are being finalized now. If all goes well, we should be able to provide maps, session details, room assignments, and registration information in our next newsletter. We are making every effort to have strong presentations for both High School and Junior High School programs.

If you have questions that we can help you with, please email us at [utee.association@gmail.com](mailto:utee.association@gmail.com)

## In the next issue...

By Doug Livingston

In future issues, we're hoping to include articles from/about:

- The CTE Office of USOE
- Tech Ed program at BYU
- Full details on the upcoming conference
- UTEE Award nominations
- "Legend of the Past"
- Teacher Spotlight
- UTEE leadership nominations
- Teaching ideas
- Membership information
- Details on upcoming Student contests and results